

The Situation.

Is the political, financial, and social situation of Hawaii satisfactory? This question is frequently asked not alone by strangers, but by residents and citizens, who have the true welfare of this country at heart.

Can we answer with honesty and truthfulness in the affirmative? Alas, it is the sad truth that never before did these fair islands stare such difficulties in the face as they do to-day.

Politically we find a hostility and bitterness never encountered before. The minority which rules at the point of the bayonet find themselves treated and considered as hostile invaders, as conquerors and usurpers and not as old friends or acquaintances to which titles many of them possess the right. In 1887 the Reform Party was looked upon by the majority of the natives as friends who had got the best of them for a time, and whom it would be a pleasure at some day to get even with and throw out at the polls. The "Republican" Party of 1893 is looked upon by the unanimous native majority as enemies. Nothing that can be said or done seems to ameliorate that feeling. The Hawaiian will listen patiently to all exhortations and expositions of men whom he has known to be his friends, and who want him to accept the situation and reconcile himself to the established condition. He turns away sulkily, shakes his head and mutters, if not with his lips at least in his heart, "kipi." He stays away from the polls and from public life. He is sulky. Financially the country is quite as badly fixed as politically. All public works are virtually stopped. The army and "navy," besides the extraordinary police expenses, swallow everything which goes into the treasury. Bonds have been sold undoubtedly to a comparatively small amount and the money used as if it were government realizations. That money must be paid back some day, and the interest must be paid annually and regularly. The country districts are annoyed to see the taxes paid by their residents used in Honolulu, while roads, bridges and wharves are neglected and going to ruin. It will be absolutely necessary to raise the rate of taxation next year, and how will such a move be received? Should the claims or a portion of them, now entered by foreign citizens, who believed themselves to have been unjustly injured

and outraged, be exacted by the foreign powers, where will the treasury be then? Land schemes and new laws have been proposed and will be placed before the earliest Legislature, under which the government will devise means to dispose of uninhabitable lands in the backwoods to settlers who are not here and never will come here. But it is beyond the financial ability of the government to see the advantages of selling its vast and valuable lands between Queen street and the waterfront to citizens who would improve those lands to the utmost extent and from which taxes in the near future would be collected which would far exceed the trifling ground rents now collected, and the government besides receiving a handsome and much needed amount of cash at once.

Socially the situation has taken its color from the political condition. This little community that at one time was like one great family—with its little bickerings and squabbles, it is true, but in the main friendly to each other—is now broken up in cliques, and hatred and ill will reign among them.

And who is to blame for this situation of which we do not think we have drawn too pessimistic a picture?

Both parties, is our answer. Each side seems unwilling to be the first to reach out the hand of reconciliation to the other. Each side claims that it is the most outraged party and that the "Shake, old boy," should come from the other.

In our school-days when we quarrelled and fought we were made to make up and shake hands. We didn't like it at all, but the helping medium was always when we were told "the most intelligent and honorable of you take the first step and offer your hand." Who of us resisted that appeal to vanity and pride?

Let the most "intelligent and honorable" party follow the example of our boyhood and take the initiative step to obtain that reconciliation which has become a vital necessity for the future of Hawaii nei.

Lucky!

The Cosmopolis, the new steamer of the I. I. S. S. Co., which arrived to-day, is to be congratulated on its narrow escape. The new vessel carries a small cannon and if she had been sighted by the Hawaiian navy, she would undoubtedly have been considered a "mysterious filibuster," and have had to take the chances of war. How lucky that the Lehua steered for home in time, and didn't jeopardize two vessels by firing her field battery.

The Monroe Doctrine.

It is really amusing to notice the manner in which American jingoes and their newspapers parade on all occasions the Monroe doctrine, as if the bare mention of that nearly forgotten theory was an argumentum ad hominem against which nothing further could be said. This view is not shared though by "foreigners," and the European press has lately said a great deal about America's pet doctrine. The following sensible view is expressed in the *London Economist* of March 23d, about the Monroe doctrine and Nicaragua:

"It is needless to say that there is no power in Europe so great that it does not regret and even dread a dispute with the United States, but still it is possible to carry differences too far, and sooner or later these recurring incidents will lead to regrettable complications. Europe as a whole may even be compelled to ask the government at Washington whether it does or does not claim any especial rights within North and South America and Hawaii, and if so, what these rights are. Does the Union claim to be the protector, in the modern sense, of Spanish and Portuguese America, or does it regard all the powers within those limits as its dependent allies? In either case, does it acknowledge itself to be in any sense answerable for their conduct?"

Will Celebrate.

On the 24th of this month falls the anniversary of the birth of Queen Victoria. It is understood that the British subjects in Honolulu intend to celebrate the day in a proper manner. Committees have been appointed and, as far as can be learned, extraordinary festivities will be arranged to take place at Independence Park.

WHENEVER a sporting event is before the public there is bound to be a kick coming. The programme for the 11th of June races is of course not satisfactory to everybody and a correspondent has his "kick" in this issue. The press is the safety valve of the public kickers, and the INDEPENDENT is pleased to open its columns even to the mules with which it is impossible for it to agree or sympathize. Kick away.

A Sensible Woman.

If reports are true, ex-Queen Liliuokalani has accepted the situation philosophically, and is really enjoying herself in her enforced retirement. She is posing neither as a martyr, nor as a political prisoner with the hope of release and advancement. The fact is generally getting abroad that Mrs. Dominis is a sensible woman.—Baltimore Herald.

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions, or utterances of our correspondents.]

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:

As the Social Science Club has been pleased to publish Chief Justice Judd's essay on "Recent phases of the Silver Question," it is in order to review it.

We can see no reason for the essay excepting that it gives the Chief Justice the opportunity to go for three men who had the temerity to differ from him on general principles.

The late King Kalakaua and his Minister Walter M. Gibson can make no defence against the slurs and innuendoes contained in the essay. In answer to the charge of ignorance against Mr. Gibson it may be said that there are people who credit that gentleman with having been possessed of as good intellectual faculties as the Chief Justice has. So far as Mr. Spreckels is concerned, he is still in the flesh and may be heard from in answer to the charge of getting away with \$150,000 in "plunder." The coinage of the Kalakaua coins may have been illegal; but, if so, it is passing strange that the law officers at the time of the coinage did not intervene to prevent it. Neither the King nor Mr. Gibson controlled the Courts, so that an injunction could have been issued to stay the so-called "plunderers" of the treasury. Had the essayist and his party had the wit to originate and the enterprise and means to carry out the coinage no questions of casuistry would have troubled them. They would have taken the \$150,000 as a godsend and compounded with conscience by renovating or building a church. Men who will say that a wrong is justified by its measure of success ought not to throw stones. It will not do for the would-be plunderers of a country and despoilers of a people to set themselves up in judgment upon the quick and the dead. Mr. Spreckels has certainly done as much to develop the material interests of these islands as the essayist and his colleagues, and as certainly done far less to injure the spiritual interests of the Hawaiian people.

We said in the opening that we could see but one reason for the essay, but we can now see that it afforded an opportunity to parade an acquaintance with well-known writers on currency and economics, and the egotism of an "I told you so."

We take our leave of the subject by remarking that the essay is voluminous rather than luminous. CRITIC.

MR. EDITOR: There was once a man who said, "Honesty is the best policy." It is a pity that we cannot have more of that policy locally. The general public are the same here as elsewhere—they like honesty, whether of purpose or act. Now look at the programme of the races. Eight out of eleven events are marked, "free for all." How honest! Every one here knows how races are arranged. If I scratch your back you scratch mine. Now the general public, the "hoe polloi," would rather see a race between the latest addition to D. B. Smith's family (the juvenile alligators) and the marine greyhound now equipped as a government revenue cruiser

as anything else in this wide world. Here would be a chance for the sporting element who are not in the ring to express their opinion and back it—if they had a mind to and also the necessary coin, and everyone would have an equal show of losing. But when races are arranged so that each stable may win in its own peculiar speciality, the public feels that the owners are acting in supreme contempt of the public. And the public now in return may retaliate. Why not have had some events of a sort that no racing stable with its tipsters and jockeys, owners and backers, would have been able to predict the exact course of events? Even the wheel races seem to have been selected on the same basis—that some one (known in advance) should have the greatest chance of coming in ahead of all possible competitors. Why make the distinction between one and five miles? Was there no middle distance that might have upset every calculation and allowed those who only go for sport a fair show for their tickets? All things considered republican racing seems to be getting no better (and that very fast) than the rotten monarchical gambling on quadruped fixtures duly checked off on the principle of first to you and then to me and between us the lamb will be properly skinned.

FREE FOR ALL.

A SQUABBLE.

Two Mounted Patrolmen Arrested for Doing Up the Captain.

It seems that there has been trouble among the mounted police since the advent of Captain Cook as Commander. The men, who are nearly all Germans, claim that the Captain is trying to get rid of them and they state that they don't believe he is a cavalry man at all, but must have belonged to the horse marines. On the other side the captain claims that some of the men are inclined to insubordination and that he must insist on discipline. Yesterday this ill-feeling came to a focus. Gus Nelson, a patrolman, was dismissed in the afternoon for being drunk at the drill. In the evening about 8 o'clock Captain Cook, who was on his way home, was assaulted and seriously beaten by Nelson, who was armed with a club. The assault took place on Merchant street near Alakea street. Cook received medical attention and was taken home. His arm was seriously bruised, and he received an ugly cut in his face. Nelson was later arrested in a restaurant on Hotel street and is now in jail. The feeling among the German patrolmen against the captain was very pronounced yesterday evening.

At about 10 o'clock patrolman Wichart was arrested, charged with assault and battery on Captain Cook. He is alleged to be accessory to the offense charged against Nelson. Both men are refused bail, on the ground that they were intoxicated.

If you want an abstract of title, Makinney is your man. He has had fifteen years of experience in the business. See his card in another column.

SPORTS.

Notes on the Turf and Athletics.

Aquatic Association.

HUNTING.

The Lehua has returned from her wild goose chase. She brought back as many geese as she carried away.

THE RACE TRACK.

The public has some prospects of enjoying, on the 11th of June, a race between Bert Lee and Fred Mac. There was bickering enough about that race a while ago, and it is a satisfaction to learn that it will come off at last—that is if neither of the contestants get sick or mad. Aupuni is here and may also enter in the race, which will make things yet livelier. Bert Lee was worked a little last Sunday and made two mile-heats in respectively 2:26 and 2:33. If the report is correct Fred Mac ought to study Dr. Pottie's horse medicine pamphlet about how to get speed, and Aupuni should forget the palmy days of Lahaina and get a move on.

A "dark horse" arrived by the Claudine. It is claimed to be a trotter, but may turn out to be a runner.

ROWING AND YACHTING ASSOCIATION.

There was a convention last night of delegates from the different boat clubs, for the purpose of forming a Rowing and Yachting Association, at the Myrtle Boat Club's house. Those present were as follows:

Myrtle Boat Club—A. G. M. Robertson, A. W. Carter and W. C. Parke.

Healani Boat Club—A. L. C. Atkinson, C. W. Macfarlane and James A. Low.

Leilani Boat Club—W. H. McIner y, J. S. Low and G. E. Smithies.

The meeting organized by appointing Mr. Robertson chairman and Mr. Atkinson secretary.

A committee of three was appointed on permanent organization, namely: Messrs. Robertson, Macfarlane and Smithies, to report to a meeting to be held at the call of the chair.

The meeting then adjourned and the committee on permanent organization held a meeting directly afterward.

AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

An adjourned meeting of the Amateur Athletic Association was held in the Y. M. C. A. parlors last night. D. Crozier, president, was in the chair, and Henry Hapai, secretary, at the desk. Officers for the ensuing term were elected as follows:

Charles Crane, President; Vida Thrum, Vice President; H. Hapai, Secretary; W. J. Forbes, Treasurer; D. Crozier, Managing committee.

There was an animated discussion on the next field meet. Mr. Crozier argued strongly in favor of handicaps, and Mr. Hapai against. On motion scratch races were decided upon by a large majority.

Dates of closing of entries and of the meet were left to the managing committee.

Mr. Forbes read his report as treasurer, showing receipts of \$125.85 and payments of \$10.70, leaving a balance of \$115.15.

Mr. Hapai wanted to be cleared of the duty of collecting dues, as he had not time to attend to it. He moved that some member be given the collecting of the dues at 5 per cent. Seconded and carried, and appointment of collector left to managing committee.

Mr. Thompson reported that the Association's baseball team had withdrawn from the Hawaiian League, and he presented a bill of \$14.50 for caps made for the nine. It was decided on motion to pay the bill and sell the caps to members who might desire them.

PISTOL AND FIST.

Exciting Fracas on Merchant Street Last Night.

At a quarter to 12 o'clock midnight a man named Truschler, a shoemaker on Hotel Street, tried to gain admittance to the house of Otto Graaf, Merchant Street on the corner of Alakea Street.

Mr. Graaf, seeing that his untimely visitor was intoxicated, refused him admittance. Truschler drew a revolver and was about to fire it at the man of the house, when Graaf hit him a strong blow in the face.

Truschler fired his pistol, fortunately without hitting anybody, when Graaf delivered him a blow that knocked him to the ground. Graaf held Truschler down until assistance came, when it was found that Truschler was so badly hurt that he had to be sent to the Queen's Hospital.

Graaf was arrested and held at the station house.

From Police Quarters.

The police station has been at rest for the last few days. The court closed about 10.30 this morning after hearing a few trifling cases. During the day there were only a few arrests. One Chinese was pulled on a charge of malicious injury, being accused of poisoning a dog, and a couple of others have to answer a charge of gambling, having indulged in the fascinating game of paka pio.

H. F. Bertelmann,

Contractor

AND

Builder.

The undersigned has re-assumed his former business as

CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER,

and is now ready to receive all orders in his line.

Estimates on New Buildings or on Jobs promptly made. Anybody desiring to build a New House or to repair an old, will do well in calling around and getting figures.

All work will be done in the most satisfactory manner. Numerous references as to the quality of work done in the past.

H. F. BERTELMANN,  
88 King street, Honolulu.  
May 13.

THEO. H. DAVIES & CO., LIMITED.

IMPORTERS OF

DRY - GOODS !

Hardware, Crockery  
and GLASSWARE

Groceries, Feed Stuffs, &c.

SPECIALTIES:

White Bros. Cement  
Corrugated Iron Roofing  
Galvanized Water Pipe  
Paints and Oils  
Roche Harbor Lime  
C. and C. Flour  
Hay, Grain, etc., etc., etc.

AGENTS

FOR

CANADIAN-AUSTRALIAN

Steamship Line.